

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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21

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 EUR-25 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 OMB-01 SR-02 ORM-03 DPW-01 AID-20 DRC-01

(ISO) W

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R 232051Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSK SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9948

INFO USUN NEW YORK 977

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTIAGO 5091

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PINT, CI

SUBJECT: IMPORTANT PRESIDENTIAL PRESS CONFERENCE UPCOMING

1. SANTIAGO PRESS CARRIES ANNOUNCEMENT BY JUNTA PRESS SPOKESMAN FEDERICO WILLOUGHBY THAT PRESIDENT PINOCHET WILL HAVE A PRESS CONFERENCE SOMETIME BETWEEN AUGUST 28 AND SEPTEMBER 5 TO WHICH FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC PRESS WILL BE INVITED. SUBJECT OF CONFERENCE SAID TO BE OF VERY GREAT IMPORTANCE, BUT NO FURTHER DETAILS AT THIS TIME.

2. WE THINK IT LIKELY THAT AT PRESS CONFERENCE PINOCHET MAY DISCLOSE SOME MODIFICATION OF EXISTING HUMAN RIGHTS PRACTICES OR GOVERNMENTAL STRUCTURE, PERHAPS TO BE EFFECTUATED ON JUNTA ANNIVERSARY DATE, SEPTEMBER 11. AS WE HAVE REPORTED, SPECULATION IS RIFE CONCERNING SOME LIBERALIZATION IN HUMAN RIGHTS FIELD, POSSIBLE EXPULSION FROM COUNTRY OF CURRENTLY DETAINED EX-ALLENDE REGIME LEADERS, OR FURTHER STEPS TOWARD NEW INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR JUNTA.

3. THIS IS FIRST TIME WE CAN RECALL AN ANTICIPATORY ANNOUNCEMENT OF THIS CHARACTER BY JUNTA. IT MAY POSSIBLY REFLECT
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COUNCEL OF REPRESENTATIVES OF DIALOGUINC. (J. WALTER THOMPSON

SUBSIDIARY) WHO HAVE MET WITH PINOCHET AND AGREED TO FURNISH PUBLIC RELATIONS SERVICES TO GOC, BOTH HERE AND IN US. WHEN DIALOG REPRESENTATIVES CALLED ON AMBASSADOR, THEY SAID INTER ALIA THAT THEY HAD ADVISED GOVERNMENT TO PLAY IT VERY MUCH AS INDICATED ABOVE, RATHER THAN TO DELAY ANNOUNCEMENT OF ANY ACTION IN THESE FIELDS UNTIL SEPTEMBER 11, THUS OVERSHADOWING OTHER POINTS GOVERNMENT MIGHT WANT TO MAKE ON THAT OCCASION. POPPER

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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition Reason:
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30 JUN 2005

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